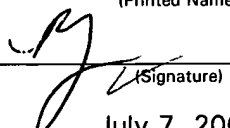




Atty. Dkt. No. 017227-0156

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Frank Man-Woon NG et al.
Title: TREATMENT OF OBESITY
Appl. No.: 09/508,054
Filing Date: 04/20/2000
Examiner: Christine J. Saoud
Art Unit: 1647

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, on the date below. Robert N. Young (Printed Name)  (Signature) July 7, 2003 (Date of Deposit)

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AMENDMENT AND REPLY UNDER 37 CFR § 1.116

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Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

ok to enter
8/4/03

Sir:

This communication is responsive to the Final Office Action dated April 11, 2003, concerning the above-referenced patent application. The three-month shortened statutory period for response to the Official Action is set to expire on July 11, 2003. Accordingly, applicants believe that this response is timely filed. No fee is believed to be due for this filing. Should any fee be due, the Patent Office is hereby authorized to charge such fees to deposit account No. 50-2350. In particular, should any extensions of time be needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, applicants hereby petition for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorize payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 50-2350. For the purpose of charging said deposit account, duplicates of pages 1 and the signature page of this response are submitted herewith.

USSN 09/508,054

The amendments presented below are in compliance with the revised amendment format permitted in the Notice from the Office of Patent Legal Administration of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office dated February 10, 2003, and published at 1267 OG 106 on February 25, 2003. Thus, the provisions of 37 CFR 1.121(a), (b), (c) and (d) are waived for amendments made in this application to the claims.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this document.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 7 of this document.

Please amend the claims as follows:

ok to
enter
8/4/03